Department of Energy

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RECORD OF MEETING ON FY 88 AND BEYOND WORK FOR DOI ON BIKINI AND ENEWETAK

Attendees

- L. Morgan, Department of the Interior
- E. Gilmore, Holmes & Narver, Inc.
- A. Gurrola, Holmes & Narver, Inc.
- J. Weisgall, Attorney for Bikini
- J. Dryden, Dir., Pacific Area Support Office
- H. Brown, Assistant for Off-Continent Operations

Background

DOE is committed to a scientific program at Bikini through FY 1988 to formulate the basis for decisions on how Bikini can best be made livable. We will also continue minor sampling and experimental work in the northern islands at Enewetak while we are in the area. I believe it is inevitable through pressures from Congress and the Bikinians that DOE will be tasked with a radiation protection program for returning Bikinians and a "quality control" type of scientific program at Bikini after FY 88 although our official posture, budget and otherwise, is that we are finished in FY 88.

The purpose of this meeting was to set up the mechanics to continue supporting DOI in their \$1 million annual food supply, motor-sailer, and agriculture program at Enewetak. Our (DOE's) objective is to train local personnel and set up a system which has Marshallese running the programs so DOE can withdraw as soon as possible but not later than the end of FY 89.

Secondly, we want to know what work DOI (through input from Earl Gilmore) was going to ask DOE to accomplish for the Bikini resettlement program through our Pacific contract with H&N.

Finally, we wanted to get some feel from DOI and the Bikini attorney as to whether they will bring pressure to bear on DOE to perform and fund radiological protection and scientific follow on at Bikini after FY 88.



John Rudolph's Files Letter files Letter-Maushall/Slands-1987

Enewetak

We agreed to work toward having a Marshall Islands entity take over the program by the end of FY 89. DOI will prepare a new MOU, PASO will draft a Scope of Work (SOW) for that MOU, target date September 15, to NV for review/ coordination. Larry Morgan will continue to work with Interior Committees to get a language change (perhaps in the appropriations conference report) which would enable an entity other than a U.S. federal agency or U.S. firm to run that program. Morgan will try to arrange with RMI to have them hire the Captain and Engineer for the Enewetak boat, and also handle boat maintenance, insurance, crew, and fuel. DOE, as part of the SOW, will again draft a congressionally required DOI-to-Congress report on program progress.

Bikini

Through a support commitment to Earl Gilmore from Tom Clark and Don Schueler, coordinated with Nick Aquilina, DOI will request the following work through our existing MOU for FY 88:

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$ 933.9K Eneu design
150.0K Bikini Dock Design
860.0K Agriculture Clearing and Fertilization
206.0K Special Studies
$2149.9K
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Joe Dryden stressed that any subcontracts would have to be through competitive bids. It becomes very clear that this is the tip of the iceberg as far as support to DOI for the total \$80-100 million project. Assuming that we, on our own hook, keep running a medical program for the exposed population of Rongelap and Utrik, and are tasked with monitoring and scientific follow on at Bikini, it is inevitable that our Pacific logistics and contracting expertise will be sought by DOI or the Bikinians through the convenience of contract 471. P.L. 99-239 and Executive Order 12569 authorize this type support. If this is so, we will have a dedicated vessel requirement for several more years.

DOI is to have a draft SOW to NV by September 30, for review and eventual approval to become an amendment to our existing MOU.

An interesting approach to funding the total Bikini project is shaping up. Ranking members of the House Interior Appropriations Committee are talking of a one-shot trust fund, perhaps in the \$40-50 million range and let the Bikinians, presumably with disapproval authority by the Secretary of the Interior, run their own resettlement project. The Bikinians would support this. They could contract directly with organizations of their choice; and it would eliminate the annual pilgrimage through DOI to the hill to argue and look for funding increments. If that happens, DOE involvement might diminish.

We also discussed and suggested that the DOE host role at Bikini could change after FY 88. I personally don't think we will need a full time \$300K field station. Any required LLNL or BNL work could be provided on an ad hoc basis using a ship and/or buying services from the island rehab contractor.

DOI and John Weisgall on behalf of the Bikinians indicated that they view a radiological monitoring program and continued environmental sampling as an integral part of the overall resettlement program and likely will be looking to DOE to fund and operate.

Harry U. Brown

Assistant for Off-Continent

Operations

cc:

J. E. Rudolph, Dir. of Program
Support, MA, HQ (DP-224) GTN

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J. H. Dryden, Dir., PASO, NV

L. E. Perrin, Dir., PMP, NV

D. B. Morse, Dir., CPD, NV